

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey: PG#79-66 Building Date: 1922

Building Name: Gibbs-Stevenson House

Location: 14003 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Gibbs-Stevenson House is a 2 1/2-story frame pyramidal-roof dwelling of compact Foursquare plan. It stands among a group of similar houses of the same type and period, just outside of the northwesternmost section of the Town of Upper Marlboro. The house is two bays by two, with entrance into the first bay of the principal north facade. The second (westernmost) bay of this facade is filled with a three-part window: a central picture window flanked by two 4/4 double-hung-sash windows. The entrance facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch with three very slim Tuscan columns. The house is sheathed with narrow white aluminum siding. Windows are generally 2/2 double hung sash, and have black louvered shutters. The pyramidal roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle. A low hip dormer is centered in the north plane of the roof; it encloses two small single-pane horizontal windows which light the loft level. A small central brick chimney rises from the peak of the pyramidal roof. The house rests on a poured concrete foundation which encloses a basement.

Significance:

The Gibbs-Stevenson House was built in 1922, on one of six building lots platted on a 5 1/2-acre parcel of land just outside the northwestern boundary of the Town of Upper Marlboro. This land had been subdivided by owners Samuel A. Wyvill, publisher of the Prince George's Enquirer, and John A. Coale, who ran a general store in the Marlboro area. Wyvill and Coale had houses erected on the lots, probably built by Joseph V. Wyvill, Jr., younger brother of the publisher, and third generation carpenter/builder of the family. The lots were sold and the houses occupied between 1922 and 1925. The subject house was built on Lot 2, second from the westernmost of the six lots. The house and the .559-acre lot were sold in 1924 to Anna Maud Gibbs, a teacher in the County public school system. The house is a good example of the compact Foursquare plan dwelling which was popular early in this century. It is a contributing element in a group of houses at the northwestern gateway to the Town of Upper Marlboro, and is a noticeable visual feature of its neighborhood.

Acreage: .559 acre

Gibbs-Stevenson House

PG#79-66

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods:

Industrial/Urban Dominance - AD 1870-1930

Modern Period - 1930 to present

Historic Period Themes:

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Functions and Uses: Domestic/Single Dwelling

Design Source: Carpenter Joseph V. Wyvill

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. PG#79-66

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF

HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Gibbs-Stevenson House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 14003 Old Marlboro Pike ___ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Joseph Stevenson

street & number 14003 Old Marlboro Pike telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro state and zip code MD 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5599

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 180

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG#79-66

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Gibbs-Stevenson House is a 2 1/2-story frame pyramidal-roof dwelling of compact Foursquare plan. It stands among a group of similar houses of the same type and period, just outside of the northwesternmost section of the Town of Upper Marlboro.

The house is two bays by two, with entrance into the first bay of the principal north facade. The second (westernmost) bay of this facade is filled with a three-part window: a central picture window flanked by two 4/4 double-hung-sash windows. The entrance facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch with three very slim Tuscan columns. A set of brick steps leads to the porch entrance. The porch rests on concrete piers infilled with lattice.

The house is sheathed with narrow white aluminum siding. Windows are generally 2/2 double hung sash, and have black louvered shutters. With the exception of the shutters, all trim is white.

The pyramidal roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle. A low hip dormer is centered in the north plane of the roof; it encloses two small single-pane horizontal windows which light the loft level. A small central brick chimney rises from the peak of the pyramidal roof.

The house rests on a poured concrete ^{foundation} which encloses a basement. The basement is lighted by narrow horizontal single-sash windows.

There is a small front-gabled frame storage shed in the rear (southwest) yard.

This house is similar to its westerly neighbor (14001) but is noticeably smaller, more compact, and does not have a rear wing. When built, it was probably nearly identical with the houses at 14005 and 14009 Old Marlboro Pike.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG#79-66

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1922 Builder/Architect Joseph Wyvill

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Gibbs-Stevenson House is a good representative of the pyramidal-roof Foursquare house form which was popular early in this century. It is one of a group of houses built in the 1920s at the northwest edge of Upper Marlboro. This group of houses forms the northern gateway to the Town of Upper Marlboro, and the subject House is a contributing feature in the group.

At the end of the nineteenth century, much of the land immediately northwest of Upper Marlboro belonged to the Merrick family. The Merrick dwelling stood on the north side of the Washington and Marlborough Turnpike, fronting on that important thoroughfare. After the death of George C. Merrick in 1915, the property was gradually sold off. In 1921, one of George Merrick's heirs, Katherine T. Merrick of the District of Columbia, sold a small parcel of land on the south side of the Turnpike to two local men, Samuel A. Wyvill and John A. Coale. Samuel A. Wyvill, publisher of the Prince George's Enquirer which was printed weekly in Upper Marlboro, was a member of a family of carpenter/builders; his grandfather, father, and uncles had left a legacy of fine domestic buildings in the Upper Marlboro area. John A. Coale ran a general store on the east side of Upper Marlboro in the neighborhood of the Wyvill home. The 5 1/2-acre parcel of land which Wyvill and Coale purchased out of the Merrick estate lay just outside of the Town boundaries at its northwest entrance; at that time this was the principal gateway to the Town of Upper Marlboro, carrying traffic between the County Seat and the nation's capital.¹

¹ Prince George's County Deed #164:428; G. M. Hopkins Map of the Vicinity of Washington, D. C., 1894; unidentified map of the area circa 1910.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#79-66

See Notes, Item 8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .559 acreQuadrangle name Upper MarlboroQuadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historianorganization Prince George's County
Historic Preservation Commissiondate March 1993street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 301-952-3521city or town Upper Marlborostate MD 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2003
(301) 276-0000

PS-2746

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#79-66

Section 8 Page 2

In 1922, the 5 1/2-acre parcel of land was surveyed by Millard Thorne, and six building lots were formed, ranging in size from just under 6/10 acre to 1.7 acres. Wyvill and Coale had houses erected on the lots, probably built by Joseph V. Wyvill, Jr., younger brother of Samuel Wyvill, and third generation carpenter/builder of the family. The lots were sold and the houses occupied between 1922 and 1925. News of local real estate sales and new construction appeared regularly in the Prince George's Enquirer. For example, the following notice appeared in the 24 March 1922 issue: "County agent W. B. Posey has moved into his new home which he purchased from John A. Coale and Samuel A. Wyvill. The house contains six rooms and bath room." (This was Lot 3, .61 acre.)²

The subject house was built on Lot 2, second from the westernmost of the six lots. The house and the .559-acre lot was sold in 1924 to Anna Maud Gibbs, a teacher in the County public school system.³ The house is a good example of the compact Foursquare plan dwelling which was popular early in this century. It is a contributing element in a group of houses at the northwestern gateway to the Town of Upper Marlboro, and is a noticeable visual feature of its neighborhood.

² Prince George's Enquirer, 24 March 1922; Prince George's County Deeds #191:176, 436; #217:117; #219:463; #224:409. See also Prince George's County Plat #91:64.

³ Prince George's County Deed #217:117; Federal census for Prince George's County, Marlboro District, 1920.

"SPRING BRANCH ESTATES"

3RD ELECTION DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
DATE: MARCH 7, 1975 SCALE: 1"=100'

PG: 79-66

SCALE: 1"=100'
N 32° 00' 00" E 107' 00" 00" W
N 32° 00' 00" E 107' 00" 00" W

OLD MARLBORO

DEDICATED
THIS PLAT

TOM A. GARDNER
2738/445

MICHAEL A. YATES
4145/654

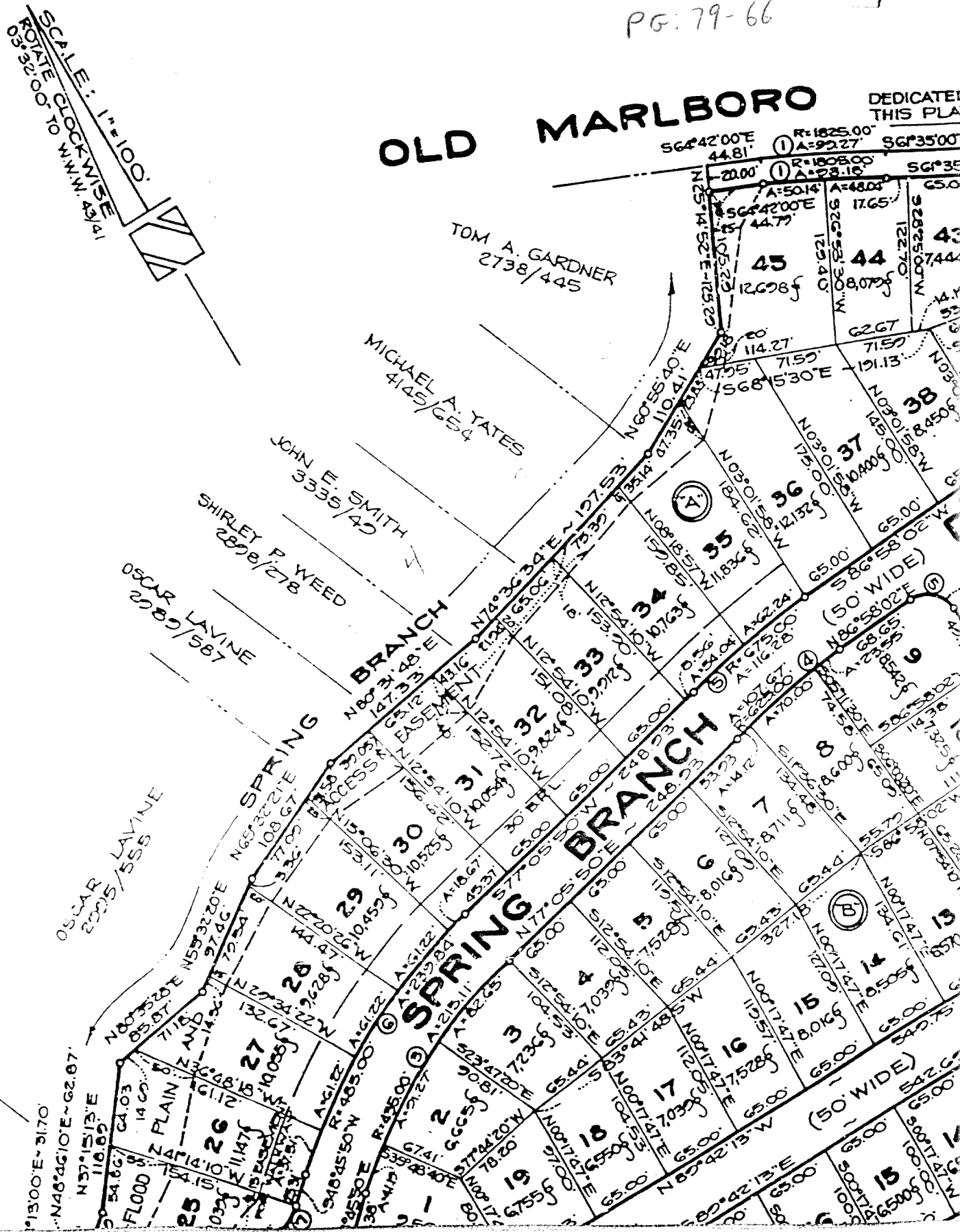
JOHN E. SMITH
3335/440

SHIRLEY P. WEED
2828/278

OSCAR LAVINE
2282/587

OSCAR LAVINE
2282/555

EO GRAHAM
082/348



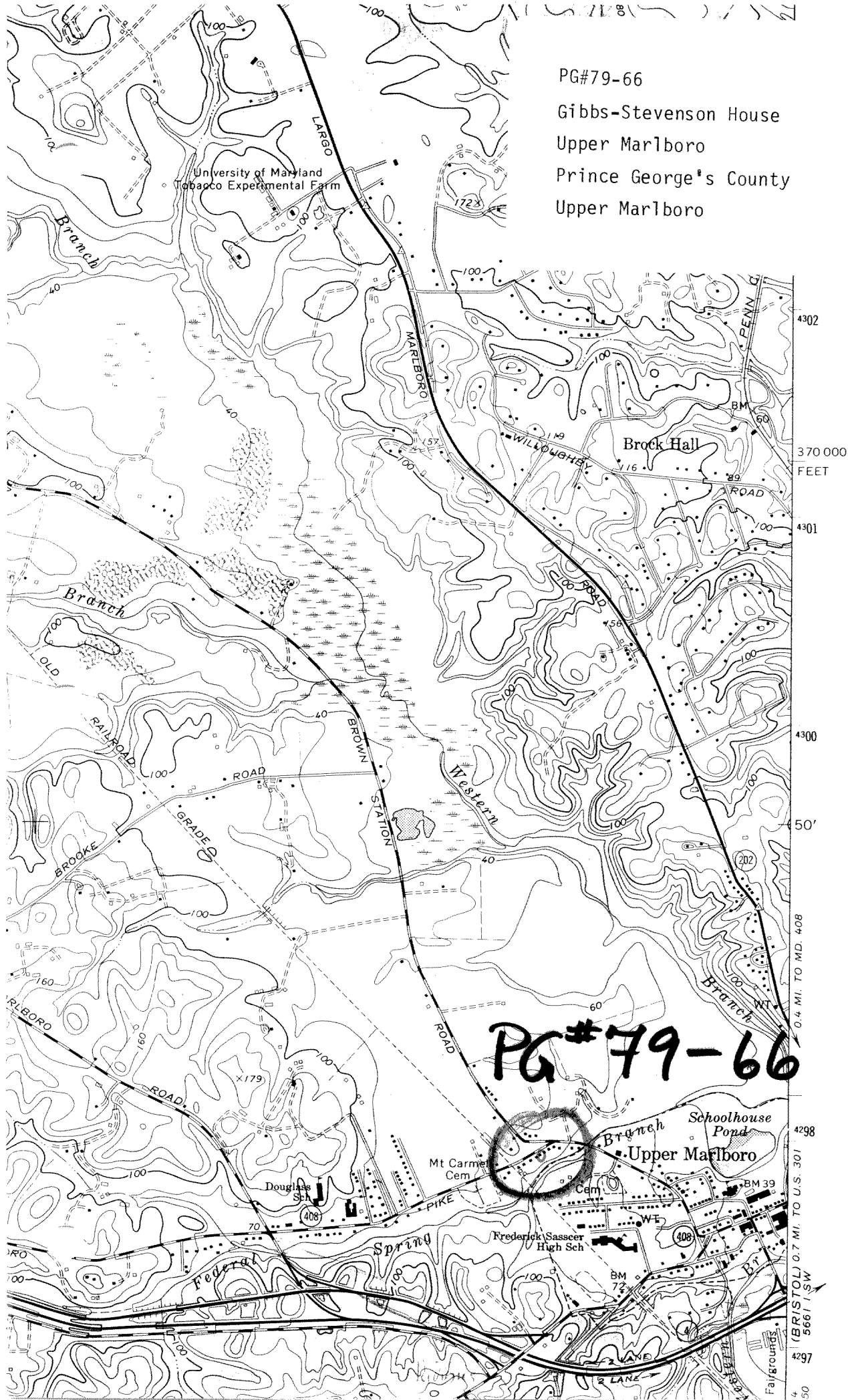
PG#79-66

Gibbs-Stevenson House

Upper Marlboro

Prince George's County

Upper Marlboro





(Hobbs 79-66)

Pg. # 79-68, 67-
66

PG: 79-66

and

PG: 79-67

PG: 79-68

Henault, Percy & Hobbs
Hess.

Prince George's Co. MD
Susan L. Pearl

2/93

NW

Ref: MHT

292



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Gibbs Stearns House
Prince Georges Co. MD
Lynn L. Larr
February 1993
North facade
Hg. MHI

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